

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 INT-05 OMB-01 /109 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4425

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2821

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY

SUBJ: GOC PARTICIPATION IN COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

REF: STATE 204517

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL CHARGE SAW FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES AND EMBOFF MET WITH GOC DELEGATION MEMBER ELIAS IPSARIDES TO DISCUSS COLOMBO. GOC DELEGATION HAD OWN AXE TO GRIND ON CYPRUS QUESTION WHICH KEPT ITS MEMBERS LARGELY PREOCCUPIED THROUGHOUT MEETING AND LEFT LITTLE TIME TO GARNER IMPRESSIONS. THEY DID PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ON KEY ISSUES OF INTEREST TO U.S.

2. PUERTO RICO-CHRISTOPHIDES FELT U.S. HAD STRONGEST CASE ON THIS ISSUE, AND REFLECTING THIS, NAM ACTION WAS MODERATE. IPSARIDES SAID HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY CUBANS ON THIS ISSUE BUT IN SOFT-SELL STYLE.

3. KOREA-BOTH MEN AGREED NORTH KOREA HAD ALIENATED MANY DELEGATIONS WITH ITS HEAVY-HANDED TACTICS. THERE WAS GENERAL SATISFACTION AT CONFERENCE THAT DPRK DID NOT GET SEAT ON NACC. CHRISTOPHIDES RECALLED DPRK ONLY ACHIEVED NAM MEMBERSHIP BY STAGE-MANAGED ACCLAMATION VOTE AT LIMA. DPRK ATTEMPT TO GAIN MEMBERSHIP ON NACC BY PACKING HALL WITH
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CHEERLEADERS IN COLOMBO BACKFIRED AND ANNOYED OTHER DELEGATES.

IPSARIDES MENTIONED DPRK HARD-SELL TACTICS AND THEIR
UBIQUITOUS, ARGUMENTATIVE PRESENCE AS FURTHER SOURCE OF
ANNOYANCE.

4. PANAMAL CANAL-IPSARIDES MEETING WITH PANAMANIAN FONMIN
BOYD GUARDIA REVEALED THAT PANAMANIAN PUBLIC POSITION ON CANAL
IS MUCH HARDER THAN BEHIND-SCENES PRESENTATION. IPSARIDES
CONCLUDED GOP PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON CANAL ISSUE ARE IN LARGE
PART INTENDED FOR PANAMA'S INTERNAL CONSUMPTION.

5. PERSONALITIES-QADDAFI APPARENTLY STRUCK CHIRSTOPHIDES
AS MORE RESTRAINED THAN AT PAST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES.
IPSARIDES REPORTED THE CYPRIOT FONMIN HUMOROUSLY RECALLED
PREVIOUS PERFORMANCES BY QADDAFIR WHEN LIBYAN LEADER HARANGUED
THIRD WORLD GATHERINGS ONEVILS OF AMERICAN WHISKEY AND MINI-
SKIRTS. IPSARIDES NOTED THAT TITO HAD CREATED A MIXED
IMPRESSION BY ARRIVING LIKE ROYALTY IN HIS OWN PLANE AND
SHIPPING THREE MERCEDES FOR HIS USE WHILE IN SRI LANKA. HE
DESCRIBED TITO AS BEING VERY ELDERLY, SICK MAN"SHOT FULL
OF INJECTIONS" TO KEEP HIM GOING.

6. GENERAL-IPSARIEDS SAID NAM NATIONS SEEM TO BE INCREASINGLY
DIVIDING INTO THREE CATEGORIES: (1) THOSE WHO ARE BASICALLY
PRO-SOVIET AND TRYING TO ASSOCIATE AIMS OF NAM WITH COMMUNIST
BLOC; (2) THOSE WHO WILL VOTE FOR ANYTHING TO PRESERVE
CONSENSUS AND APPEARANCE OF UNITY IN NAM; (3) THOSE WHO ARE
SINCERELY TRYING TO MAINTAIN NEUTRALITY VIS-A-VIS SUPPER PWERS
AND WANT OA FORMULATE TRUE THIRD WORLD POSITIONS. IPSARIDES
MENTIONED TANZANIA AND SRI LANKA AS FALLING INTO THIRD GROUP
AND GAVE LATTER VERY HIGH MARKS FOR EFFICIENTLY RUN CONFERENCE
AND ASTUTE HANDLING OF NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION. HE FELT
EVIDENCE NOW POINTS TO BASIC VULNERABILITY OF
SOLIDARITY OF AREA BLOCS IN FACE OF NATTIONAL INTERESTS OF
INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. HE ILLUSTRATED HIS POINT REFERRING TO ARAB
BLOC'S INABILITY TO ARRIVE AT COMMON POSITION ON LEBANON OR
WESTERN SAHARA BECAUSE OF SYRIA AND EGYPT IN ONE CASE AND ALGERIA
AND MOROCCO IN THE SECOND.
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